



HOUSE BILL 296: EV Charging Station/Parking.

2021-2022 General Assembly

Committee:	House Transportation. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	March 30, 2021
Introduced by:	Reps. Warren, von Haefen, Szoka, Autry	Prepared by:	Wendy Ray
Analysis of:	PCS to Second Edition H296-CSSU-6		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *The Proposed Committee Substitute for House Bill 296 would prohibit parking a vehicle in a space designated as an electric vehicle charging station if the vehicle is not an electric vehicle connected to equipment for the purpose of charging. Violation would be an infraction punishable by a fine of \$100. Local governments would be preempted from adopting or enforcing ordinances establishing penalties for parking in electric vehicle charging stations without connecting to charging equipment.*

The PCS makes technical and clarifying changes to the bill.

CURRENT LAW: There are currently no restrictions in State law regarding parking in electric vehicle charging stations. Generally, cities and counties have authority to adopt ordinances regulating parking. Some municipalities have adopted ordinances regulating parking in spaces designated for electric vehicle charging.

BILL ANALYSIS: The PCS for House Bill 296 would prohibit parking of a vehicle in an electric vehicle charging station on public or private property, unless the vehicle is an electric vehicle connected to the charging equipment for the purpose of charging. For the prohibition to apply, a space would have to be designated as a charging station, for electric vehicle charging only, by a sign consistent with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways.

Violation of the prohibition would be an infraction punishable by a fine of \$100. It would be enforceable by any State, county, city, or other municipal authority in the same manner as other parking laws and ordinances are enforced.

Local governments would be preempted from adopting or enforcing ordinances establishing penalties for parking in electric vehicle charging stations without connecting to the charging equipment.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The act would become effective December 1, 2021, and would apply to offenses committed on or after that date.

BACKGROUND: Legislation passed by the General Assembly in 2019 (S.L. 2019-132) exempted electric vehicle charging stations from regulation as public utilities, allowing wider proliferation of charging stations.

Chris Saunders, counsel to House Energy and Public Utilities, contributed to this summary.

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